

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP  
29 MECHANIC STREET  
WIND GAP, PA 18091  
863-7288  
FAX 863-1011**

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Scott Parsons at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilpersons: Tony Curcio, Kerry Gassler, Dave Hess, George Hinton, and John Maher. Joe Weaver was absent. Also in attendance were Mayor James Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. EMS - Kerry Gassler stated that there were 55 calls for the month of January, and 75 calls for the month of February. On April 3<sup>rd</sup> they are having a coin toss on Park Avenue and Broadway from 9am to 2pm.
2. Fire Co. - Dave Hess reported 9 calls for the month of February consisting of motor vehicle, structure, dwelling, and alarms. Need to find title to the old car. They have a camera crew filming calls/training on actual emergency scenes. George Hinton stated that he applied for Ins. membership and applications were accepted. Will be using tapes for training. George stated that Jeff Yob is asking for the beer and clam tent for the Carnival which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June – will need liquor license. **On motion** by Kerry Gassler and seconded by Tony Curcio, Council agreed to the application of a temporary liquor license for the beer/clam tent. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.
3. Zoning - ZHB meeting of March 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding the remand of the Reimer case – sign issue. The Zoning Officer's decision was upheld, only one free standing sign allowed, all others must come down. Another ZHB meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup>, appeal of Adams Outdoor regarding obtaining sign permits for their billboard re-facing. **On motion** by Tony Curcio and seconded by John Maher, Council agreed to have Borough Solicitor Ron Karasek attend the March 29<sup>th</sup> ZHB meeting. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.
4. Planning – Scott Parsons reported that the Planning Commission did not meet in the month of March. Just received new proposal for RPM – meeting in April.
5. Sewer Authority - John Maher stated that they have a meeting tomorrow night (3/23). The Authority has put out to bid the opening/replacing of sewer lines in F Alley & Alpha Road. They did not include re-paving which is required by the Borough. Ron Karasek stated that he and Brian Pysher discussed this issue last week and reviewed some ordinances from other municipalities (Bangor Boro, etc.), to include the existing Wind Gap Borough ordinance about digging trenches, holes, and streets. Our ordinances are in effect already for street opening and compliance with various sections of Penn Dot regulations.

The question is in our existing ordinance it only says when opening up any trench or excavation in a public street of the Borough. The Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) defines a street to include an alley, however, this is not an MPC issue, but a Borough ordinance issue. If not re-paved to borough satisfaction/standards then the Authority could subject itself to some kind of claim. For past monies owed by the Authority, if a motion was made to reimburse, check the minutes for a time frame – send a bill and add interest. Scott Parsons stated that this issue will be further discussed at the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

6. Streets – George Hinton stated that the committee met at 4:00 to discuss the different streets in town that are in need of repair, trying to prioritize, and come up with different options. Hope to make a recommendation soon, possibly the next meeting.
7. Police – Mayor Shoemaker stated for the month of February the police department handled 116 calls to include 11 traffic citations, 6 motor vehicle accidents, 7 animal complaints, and 5 parking tickets. The SUV (65012 miles).
8. Park - Scott Parsons stated that Joe Weaver is absent, the park board hasn't met since the last Council meeting, so there is nothing to report.
9. 911 – Tony Curcio stated there is nothing new to report.
10. Tipping Fees – Tony Curcio stated there is nothing new to report.
11. Property Maintenance Code – Brian Pysher stated that he will re-schedule a meeting with Bangor Borough.
12. Building Finance - Scott Parsons stated that he will contact Mike Goffredo. George Hinton stated that the finance committee is meeting at the fire house tomorrow night at 7pm.
13. Mayor's Report – Mayor Shoemaker stated that the Slate Belt COG will to meet on 3/23 at 6:30pm. Snow date is the March 24<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor plans to attend the COG's grand opening for their new building. Also, he has received a lot of complaints about potholes on A Street. Mayor Shoemaker wants to present a Proclamation to Michael Racciato, the PAHS wrestler for winning a State Championship in the 135lb class. **On motion** by George Hinton and seconded by John Maher, Council agreed that Michael Racciato should be recognized with a Proclamation. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Proposed Street Opening Ordinance – Brian Pysher acquired a copy of Bangor Borough's section 5a for further review – it puts the burden on the contractor, it requires not just the trench but the whole width of the street – ordinance for streets and alleys. Any project still has to be bid as of date of ordinance – stand alone ordinance. Ron Karasek stated to leave it open so Brian has the ability to review on a case by case basis. Target date to advertise - mid-month April.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Civil Service Commission – Russell Grover stated that last Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Civil Service Commission met and conducted their re-organization meeting. They reviewed the codes and discovered that the biggest update was Act 91.

The commission voted to add Act 91 as an amendment to the book itself. Act 91 clarifies all subsections. Also, the original and newest resolution was adopted in 1995.

As of March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Civil Service Commission would like to have the rules and regulations of this newest resolution re-adopted. **On motion** by John Maher and seconded by George Hinton, Council agreed to the re-adoption of the 1995 resolution. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

2. Park Master Plan – more information needed from the borough to move forward.

3. Firehouse – Brian Pysher stated that he is still getting numbers together for the floor maintenance project. He is still looking into the Labor and Industry (L&I) permitting requirements to include improving ADA accessibility (drinking fountains, bathrooms, etc.). Original estimate around \$20k – right now the permitting issue is the biggest question or unknown factor to be considered.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. to discuss Personnel Issues. Council reconvened at 8:31 p.m. **On motion** by Dave Hess and seconded by John Maher, Council voted to re-instate Officer Brian Redmond based upon the examination by the physician selected by Officer Redmond pursuant to last month's meeting that the physician determined that officer Redmond can return to work without any restrictions or any accommodations. Based upon the determination of both physicians that examined Officer Redmond the Borough will re-instate him based upon the condition that he complete all of the required training and re-certification to return to full duty. These requirements are to be scheduled as soon as possible with the Chief's involvement so the officer can return to full duty as soon as possible. Additionally, pro-rate any benefits he may receive for this year based upon his actual length of actual duty. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried in favor 5-0-1 with Kerry Gassler abstaining.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of March 22, 2011 and seconded by John Maher. The meeting of March 22, 2011 adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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Darlene C. Plank, Asst. Borough Administrator